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Letter dated 18 February 2004 from the Chairman of the Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism addressed to the President of the Security Council

I write with reference to my letter of 21 November 2003 (S/2003/1130). The Counter-Terrorism Committee has received the attached fourth report from Greece submitted pursuant to paragraph 6 of resolution 1373 (2001) (see annex). I would be grateful if you could arrange for the present letter and its annex to be circulated as a document of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) Inocencio F. **Arias**
Chairman
Security Council Committee established pursuant to resolution 1373 (2001) concerning counter-terrorism

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Annex

Note verbale dated 12 February 2004 from the Permanent Mission of Greece to the United Nations addressed to the Chairman of the Counter-Terrorism Committee

The Permanent Representative of Greece presents his compliments to the Chairman of the Committee and, with reference to the Chairman's letter dated 12 November 2003, has the honour to submit herewith supplementary information (see enclosure).

Enclosure

A. Effectiveness in the protection of financial system

1.1 The Greek F.I.U has been established by Law 2331/1995, Article 7 and it is continuously upgrading its technical and functional capabilities in order to carry out its legal duties. It is composed of representatives of ministries and relevant authorities (that is 18 members with their alternates) and chaired by a public prosecutor of the Court of Appeals with his alternate The F.I.U is supported by three full time employees of the Ministry of Economy and finance for the secretarial support. Its members may use the data and the resources of the ministries and authorities they represent in order to enhance the investigation of suspect cases.

1.2 The Bank of Greece which has been designated by Law 3348/2003 as the competent supervisory for money transmitters is finalizing the detailed requirements for the granting of license to provide money/value transfer services.
There are 12 money transmitters already operating in Greece to which a reasonable time (probably 6 months) will be given for obtaining the above mentioned license. Most of the companies already operating in Greece provide their services through credit institutions and bureaux de change
Bureau de Change have been subject to the supervision of the Bank of Greece since 1997 as provided for by Law 2515/25-7-1997 Article 18 and the Governor's of the Bank of Greece Decision 2440/1-11-99.

1.3 A total number of 753 Strs have been reported to the Greek F.I.U and in particular :

a) by the stock market and securities 12
b) by bureaux de change 106

The 549 STRs have been reported by banks, 84 by the Police and other authorities
All the above mentioned reports have been analyzed and introduced in the data base of the F.I.U. The majority of them have been investigated by the police (for the criminal record of the persons reported), the banks, the registry and the tax authorities
Twenty cases have been resulted in prosecutions.

1.6 The Draft Legislation is ready, but due to early parliamentary elections, it will be voted by the new Parliament.

B. As far as the effectiveness of the counter terrorism machinery is concerned, the following is noted:

1.8 Greece has established the adequate mechanisms in order to ensure a high level cooperation with the Authorities of other States, which are engaged in dealing with various aspects of terrorism, including its financing

The competent Greek Security Authorities cooperate on regular basis with
the respective authorities of other countries, including investigations for terrorist activities, which are in progress whenever it is estimated appropriate and indispensable.

Our country, with respect to the international aspects of terrorism, collaborates with other states in order to effectively confront in common, terrorist activities.

With regard to the exchange of information, the competent Greek Police Authorities may exchange and share information with the corresponding authorities of third states. The sectors of the exchange of information concern the confronting of terrorist incidents, suspect investigation, apprehended-arrested persons and operational measures.

In general terms, no legal restrictions exist, concerning the exchange of information with the authorities of other states, except for the information of personal nature, where the law 2472/1997 "regarding the individual's protection from the handling of personal data" is taken into consideration.

Finally, in the context of the exchange of information and generally for the cooperation with other foreign states, the legal framework which incorporates the bilateral and multilateral agreements in police cooperation, the decisions of the European Union and the declarations of the U.N are also taken into consideration

1.9 The legislative framework in force, in our country, in the regime of witnesses' protection is anticipated by the law 2928/2001 (article 9 par.2)

- According to paragraph 2 of article 9 of the abovementioned law, the measures of witnesses' protection are provisioned after justified provision of the competent district attorney.
- According to the article 10 of the abovementioned law with a provision of the competent district attorney of the Court of Appeals, the protection measures are provisioned for the district attorney as well, the inquisitor and the judges of the case.
- In the law, the witnesses' immigration from other countries to Greece is not anticipated.
- The Ministry of Public Order is elaborating a relevant presidential decree, providing for special police authority, equipped with adequate trained personnel, which will apply the specific competency (witnesses' protection e.t.c.)
- In Greece, protection measures are implemented for the district attorneys, the inquisitors and the judges of the case of the terrorist groups "17 November" and "E.L.A".

1.10 The Greek police authorities recently eradicated the Greek terrorist groups 17 November and E.L.A, arresting their members.

-19 members of 17 November were arrested, from whom 15 were sentenced to life imprisonment and to imprisonment of many years, while 4 of them were acquitted due to lack of sufficient evidence.

-4 members of the E.L.A were also arrested, whose trial commenced on Monday 9th of February of the current year.

In addition, according to our files there is no evidence -up today- on individuals involved in the financing of terrorist activities

1.11 According to the Bank's of Greece Decision 2302/16-5-94, travellers are required upon leaving Greece to declare banknote and personal cheques, which they are taking out of the Country if their total value exceeds the equivalent of 2 000 Euro and upon entering the equivalent of 10 000 Euro.

1.12 As far as the existing regulations on border controls for suspect individuals or persons alleged for terrorist activities we note the following : The national Passport Control network is linked with an electronic database. Passport Control officers submit all relevant information for aliens entering Greek territory to this database which serves as a register, as well, for all additional evidence associated with suspect individuals. This database includes inter alia, names of individuals listed in the U.N Security Council lists in accordance with the Resolutions 1267/1999, 1333/2000,1373/2001 and 1390/2002.

C. With reference to the controls for preventing terrorists from access to weapons, the following should be noted (paragraphs 1.14, 1.15 and 1.16):

The prevention of illegal importation-trafficking-possession and use of weapons' types and explosive materials, constitutes for the competent Greek authorities a matter of top priority and with regard to the achievements of this purpose every possible effort is made.

More precisely, as far as the types of weapons and the explosive materials are concerned, our efforts still have two targets: a) the control of transfers of all types of weapons and explosive materials (manufacture- import-trade-possession-use) and b) the strengthening of the police involvement for tracking down and seizure of illegally imported, possessed and use of such types of weapons.

Regarding the control of the transfer of weapons, the efforts of our Authorities include:

a. Establishing an electronic database, in which all the legally imported-trafficking-possessed types of weapons (weapons, ammunitions) are registered. This database is constantly updated for potential alteration occurring to the possession regime. In the above-mentioned database, apart from the possibility of deriving information concerning the possessors of weapons legally found in our country, also arises the "transfer record" of every weapon, starting from the initial entry in Greece until the final legal user (weapons registry). In the same base are also registered all the seized (confiscated-seized-lost-stolen-reported stolen or found).

b Implementation, in strict conformity, of the provisions of the law 2168/93 and of the authorized published ministerial decisions to all the persons who are engaged to legitimate activities in the field of weapons (dealers- users-possessors of license and carrying of arms-sentinels' union-sentinels) and continuous monitoring of these actions,

with the aim to prevent the dissemination of the legally possessed weapons into illegal markets.

c. Establishment of a minimum rate of inspections per month in every company operating in weapons transfers.

d. Cooperation with other authorities (Coast-guard, Customs, Tax Authorities) and exchange of information with the competent authorities of the countries of origin of the imported types of weapons

As far as the control of the legally manufactured-trafficking and used explosive materials is concerned, our actions are focused on:

a. The continuous control of the activities of individuals participating in the legal manufacture-storing-disposal-consumption of explosive materials.

b. The implementation of the legislation in force for the explosive materials and mainly the implementation of the provisions concerning the quality of the imported and manufactured explosive materials (certification CE), the provisions' implementation regarding the transport of dangerous commodities (ADR Treaty) , the conditions' compliance for their safe use and the imposition of sanctions for the violators (temporary subtraction or revocation of the possessed licenses).

c. The establishment of a minimum rate of inspections per month, to all the areas of manufacture-storing-trade-consumption of explosive materials, for the confirmation of the explosive materials trafficking in a legal way and for the control of the measures' compliance taken by the experts for the guarding of the explosive materials and for the prevention of cases concerning leaks or accidents. In reference to the confronting of illegally imported-trafficking and possession of types of weapons and explosive materials, controls of wide range are operated (security-order-traffic police-border control and the concealed persecution-passport control-drugs' persecution e.t.c) and for this purpose:

   a. The means of transport and the entry of individuals in our country are checked through the institutional entrance points.

   b. Land Controls and sea borders are carried out with the cooperation of the Coast-Guard Authorities) in order to prevent the illegal importation of armament by persons coming in Greece illegally.

   c. The emerging cases are investigated in depth, for the spotting and uprooting of criminal networks which are activated in the field of illegal explosive materials' and trafficking of weapons.

   d. Specific measures are taken in regions where intense problems of trafficking-possession and use of weapons or explosive materials have occurred, in cooperation with the local legal institutions.

   e. Economic and technical aid has been provided to states dealing with problems concerning the control of the weapons' trafficking and our cooperation on an international, regional and bilateral level has been reinforced, especially on issues of exchange of information.

f. As far as the plastic explosives are concerned, our country has ratified the Montreal Treaty by Law 2264/94, which enter in force at 21.6.1998 and whose provisions are strictly implemented.